

# Partnerships for SWPBS Success

*Strategize to ensure **meaningful participation** of families and the community.*

## **What is “meaningful participation” ?**

- This varies by culture, experience and backgrounds for each family and community.
- Generally, it is:
  - Linked to supporting student success
  - Collaborative
  - Honors a variety of contributions
  - Based on strengths and abilities
- Goes beyond providing funding for incentives

# Benefits of Family and Community Involvement in SWPBS

- Consistent message about behavior expected at school
- Maximizing resources for support
- Development of expectations that are responsive to families/cultures in the community
- Research indicates improved behavior for students with involved families and community

# Partnerships at All Levels

- Universal Examples (All students)
  - Ask parents for student strengths, challenges, goals at the beginning of each year
  - Notify parents when student is “caught being good”
  - Ask students to share SWPBS expectations with parents as homework
  - Offer time with a parent, family, or community member as an incentive
  - Routinely inform parents of student behavior performance and ask for feedback/input

# Partnerships at All Levels

- Targeted Examples

(When students need increased support)

- Inform parents of increased student support and engage in collaborative problem-solving
- Frequent, two-way communication with parents regarding response to increased support
- Explore options for support from community partners

- Individual Strategies

(When students need intensive support)

- Wrap-Around Team
- Person Centered Planning
- Mental Health Services

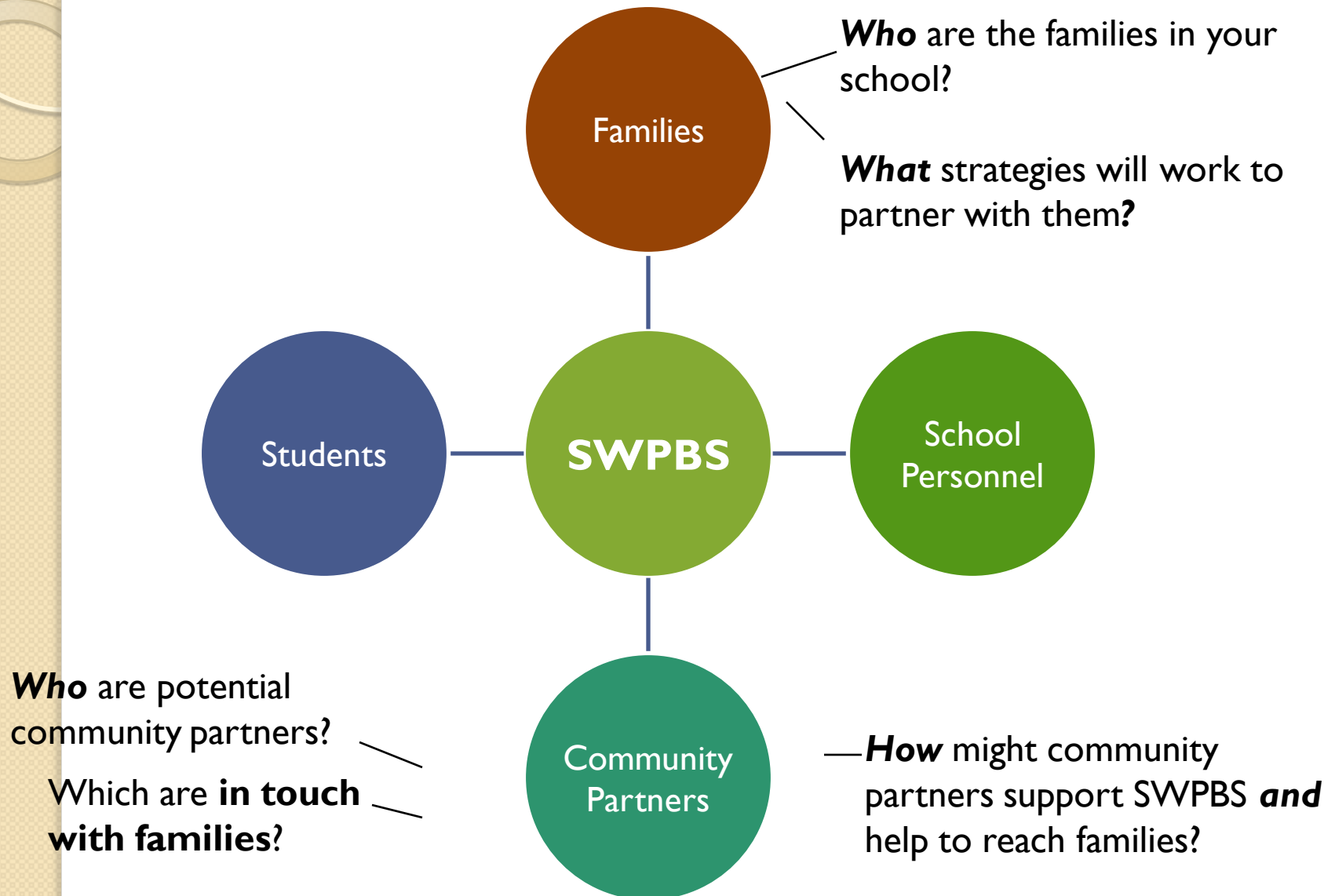
# More Examples of F&C Participation

- Provide information about SWPBS at “Back to School Night”
- Provide information about SWPBS at community locations or activities that draw-in parents
- Discuss student performance in meeting behavior expectations at P/T conferences
- Offer time with a parent or community member as an incentive
- Partner with local parent and community groups to provide input on SWPBS planning and implementation
- Let families acknowledge students for behavior consistent with expectations

# Family and Community Involvement in SWPBS Planning

- Personally invite participation on leadership team
- Meet at places other than the school
- Allow for alternatives to face-to-face meetings for participation
- Utilize focus groups, surveys, neighborhood walks, community forums as methods to hear many voices
- Connect family and community team members to a school person responsible for supporting their involvement
- Partner with local parent or community groups to get feedback

# Partnerships for SWPBS Success



# Partnership Activities for YOUR Families and Community

“Who are the people in your neighborhood?”  
~ Mr. Rogers

- Culture, history, resources
- Realities of day-to-day life
- Employers and service providers
- Languages spoken
- Previous experience with schools
- Strengths and challenges
- Desired outcomes for students

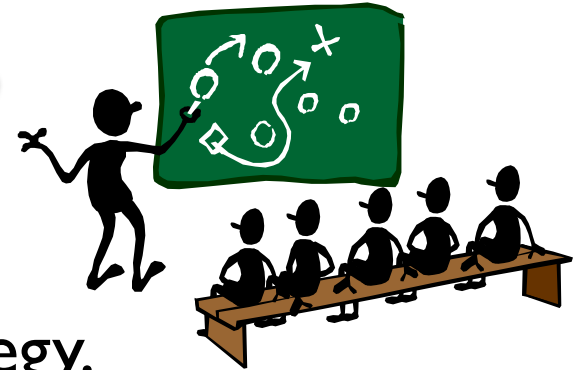




# Watch out for school-based barriers to partnerships

- Negative Attitudes or Stereotypes
- Unfriendly Atmosphere /Procedural Barriers
- Insufficient Time/Resources Committed
- Staff/Educators Uncertain about How to Work with Parents/Community
- Limited Definition of Involvement
- No Plan for Partnerships
- Parents/Community Not Involved or Considered in Planning

# What is your strategy?



Today, begin developing your strategy.

## NOTE:

- Build SWPBS partnership strategies into activities that currently connect with many families or community partners
- *Develop new strategies to connect with families that are currently disconnected*

# Signs of a Strong Partnership for SWPBS Success

- Family members and community partners can state expectations
- Participation by family members and community partners in SWPBS planning, implementation, evaluation, and problem-solving
- Two-way communication with families and community partners regarding student behavior
- Families know how their students are doing in meeting expectations